



Department of Justice

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XENIA MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO SOCIAL SECURITY FRAUD

DAYTON – John Harrison, age 47, of Xenia, has pleaded guilty in United States District Court here to one count of Social Security Fraud for taking \$116,135.10 in Social Security Disability payments even though he was working as an accountant.

Gregory G. Lockhart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio and William Cotter, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Social Security Administration Office of Inspector General, Chicago Region, announced the plea entered yesterday before Senior United States District Judge Walter H. Rice.

According to a statement of facts filed with the plea agreement, Harrison applied for Disability Insurance Benefits on or about September 29, 1998, falsely claiming that he had become incapacitated as a result of an automobile accident in July 27, 1994, and that he was unable to work, drive a car, or exert himself in any way.

Harrison continued to claim that he was unable to work in interviews with Social Security Administration staff and also on May 18, 2004, when he submitted a Report of Continuing Disability to the Social Security Administration, falsely stating that his condition had not changed, and in fact had worsened, and that he was prevented from working because he was in constant severe pain which incapacitated him.

Investigators found out that Harrison had actively worked the entire time as an accountant with multiple clients and appointments outside of the home.

Harrison faces a maximum sentence of five years imprisonment, a fine up to \$250,000, and up to three years of supervised release. His sentence will be determined by the Court, with the assistance of the Probation Department, based on all applicable laws including the Sentencing Reform Act and with the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which are advisory in nature. He also agreed to pay restitution to the Social Security Administration.

Lockhart commended the agents who investigated the case and Assistant U.S. Attorney Laura Clemmens, who prosecuted the case.

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